

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 32-52 Pending.
Claims 1-31 Canceled.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with David Moorman on 6/4/2010.

The Claims file 3/4/2010 have been amended as follows:

- a) In Line 15 of Claim 32, after "data key" insert --determining that the rule is a particular rule from among a plurality of rules of one of a plurality of protocols--
- b) In Line 9 of Claim 42, after "data key" insert --a processor that determines that the rule is a particular rule from among a plurality of rules of one of a plurality of protocols--

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments see response, filed 3/4/2010, with respect to newly introduced claims 32-52 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of the previously pending claims has been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 32-52 allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art neither teaches nor suggests a method or system for comparing a data key to a rule which involves both masking and dividing a data key into chunks wherein the chunked and masked data key is used to extract data from a memory wherein the chunks of the data key correspond to an address of the memory which is used to verify correspondence to a rule. Examiner notes that all of the generating, and inserting steps of method claim 32 are reflected in the described memory of system claim 42.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Points of Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael J. Hicks whose telephone number is (571) 272-2670. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9:00a - 5:30p.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Neveen Abel-Jalil can be reached at (571)272-4074. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Michael J Hicks/
Examiner, Art Unit 2165
Phone: (571) 272-2670
Fax: (571) 273-2670

/Naveen Abel-Jalil/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2165